



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE
CHAIRWOMAN

January 18, 2023

The Honorable Elizabeth Warren
United States Senate
309 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Warren:

Thank you for your letter regarding the proposed transaction involving TEGNA Inc., Standard General LP, and Apollo Global Management, Inc. While it is a longstanding practice at the Federal Communications Commission that we do not comment on transactions that are pending before us, I can share that the Media Bureau issued a Public Notice concerning this matter on April 21, 2022, seeking public comments by May 23, 2022 and reply comments by June 7, 2022. After the release of this Public Notice, the Media Bureau requested additional information from the applicants in an information request on June 3, 2022. The Media Bureau also extended the deadlines for petitions to deny the transaction to June 22, 2022. Following this action, the Media Bureau requested further information from the applicants in an additional information request on September 29, 2022.

With these requests, the Media Bureau sought information regarding the applicants' plans regarding retransmission consent and sharing agreements, how the transaction would affect local programming (including data supporting the applicants' assertion that the transaction will facilitate investment in local content), and the impact of the transaction on employment. The applicants responded to the second information request on October 13, 2022. To facilitate this process, the Media Bureau released another Public Notice on October 6, 2022, directing all interested parties to supplement any previous pleadings by October 27, 2022, and asking the applicants to respond by November 3, 2022.

Additionally, in December 2022, the parties submitted several letters to the Commission outlining commitments they are willing to make regarding: (1) the applicability of retransmission consent agreements; (2) potential post-consummation coordination between the applicant and Apollo Global Management, Inc. and investment funds managed by its affiliates and CMG Media Corporation and its subsidiaries, and (3) station-level staffing, should the transaction be approved. The Media Bureau recently sought comment on these commitments in a Public Notice released on December 23, 2022. Interested parties had until January 13, 2023 to provide their views with reply comments due by January 20, 2023.

I can assure you that the Media Bureau will carefully review the record and the supplemental information filings of the applicants to determine whether the transfer is consistent with the public interest under Section 310(d) of the Communications Act. This will include an examination of the applicants' request regarding foreign investment. The Commission referred

the issue to relevant Executive Branch agencies for their views on any national security, law enforcement, foreign policy, or trade policy concerns related to the foreign ownership, consistent with Commission practice. On November 17, 2022, the agencies completed that review. Further, consistent with past transactions, the Commission is coordinating with the Department of Justice Antitrust Division as it completes its own review of the proposal.

I have asked the Media Bureau to place your letter into the record of the proceeding so your views will be taken into consideration. I hope this is helpful. Please let me know if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jessica Rosenworcel", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jessica Rosenworcel